

REMARKS

Claims 10-20 are allowed. Claim 3 is cancelled. Claim 1 is amended. No new subject matter is added. Reconsideration and allowance of claims 1, 2, and 4-20 is requested in light of the amendment to claim 1 that is described in the remarks below.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 10-20 are allowed.

Claims 3 and 5-8 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form, including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claim 1 is amended to incorporate the subject matter found in claim 3, which was indicated to be allowable over the prior art of record. Claim 3 is cancelled.

Claims 5-8 depend from claim 1, which now contains allowable subject matter. Thus, claims 5-8 no longer depend from a rejected base claim.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 102

Claims 1, 2, 4, and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by JP11-345970 to Tomio et al. (“Tomio”).

Claim 1 is amended to incorporate the subject matter found in claim 3 (now cancelled), which was indicated to be allowable over Tomio. Consequently, Tomio does not anticipate claim 1 because it does not show the identical invention in as complete detail as is contained in the claim. MPEP 2131, *citing Richardson v. Suzuki Motor Co.*, 868 F.2d 1226, 1236 (Fed. Cir. 1989).

Claims 2, 4, and 9 depend from claim 1. Consequently, Tomio does not anticipate claims 2, 4, and 9 because it does not show all the features inherent to the claims. MPEP 2131.

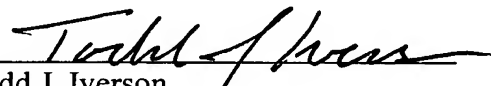
Conclusion

For the foregoing reasons, reconsideration and allowance of claims 1, 2, and 4-20 is requested. Please telephone the undersigned at (503) 222-3613 if it appears that an interview would be helpful in advancing the case.

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Respectfully submitted,

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